

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

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TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 22. SECTION A

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1937.

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Propose Slough as Site for Big L. A. Trade Expo

At a meeting Monday night at L. A. Councilman Buyer's office, DeKalb Spurlin, L. J. Gilmeister and James Hitchcock were named as this city's representatives on the committee to bring the Los Angeles Trade Exposition to the Harbor district.

Altho Torrance was not represented at the session, civic leaders here are watching with keen interest the attempt of Harbor district men in boosting the Nigger Slough area and Alameda Park as sites for the huge Trade Exposition to be staged in 1938 by the city of Los Angeles.

Harbor district representatives conferred with Los Angeles City Councilman Franklin P. Buyer last Friday night on the scheme to make a stepping stone out of the old stumbling block of Nigger Slough.

It has been proposed to create a natural lake in the slough lowlands, which have long been a problem to county drainage experts. A beautiful exposition site could thus be created at small expense, owing to the natural formation of the land and the present low price of acreage in that area.

Park Also Mentioned
The plan for a natural lake and park site in Nigger Slough is an old favorite of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce.

The shoestring strip site for the exposition also has been suggested because it is near the harbor and the sea, yet easily accessible to downtown Los Angeles. Alondra Park was also discussed as a possible location. Gardenia Chamber of Commerce and civic leaders are aiding Buyer in carrying on a campaign for the Gardenia site in competition with the many other localities which have already been suggested for the exposition.

SLOUGH RELIEF SEEN UNDER NEW PLAN

Possibility that the Nigger Slough project can be provided for on the new plan of flood control and forest conservation projects for Los Angeles county that is to be discussed at Sacramento next Monday was seen today following announcement of the meeting. The meeting is to be between the conservation committee of the State Supervisors' association, and Governor Merriam, according to H. C. Legg, chairman of the committee and one of the supervisors who will represent the county. Plans made at the Sacramento meeting next Monday will be submitted to federal authorities to be embodied in a program of federal aid as contemplated in the new public works program of President Roosevelt, Legg said.

Three Grass Fires Extinguished

Three calls to extinguish grass fires were answered this week on successive days by the Fire department from central station. On Monday the firemen were called to Cedar and Carson streets, on Tuesday to 236th east of Narbonne avenue, and yesterday at 223rd and Halldale. No damage was done at any of the blazes.

Flower Fund

Proposed for Study of Perfume Project
The sum of \$20,000 with which to conduct research on the practicability of a proposed perfume flower growing project may be set up in the 1937-38 county budget, following consideration by the board of supervisors. The board on motion of Supervisor Gordon L. McDonough referred the matter of an appropriation to the budget committee to be considered later in the month or in July.

Alondra Park north of Torrance and several other areas would be suitable for growing perfume flowers, according to Monroe C. Kidder, who has championed the proposal before the supervisors. Most of the perfume flowers from which the industry derives its supply are grown in France, Kidder said.

Time Extended Again for H.S. Gym Building

Another extension of time, this time for 27 days, has been granted the contractor on the new physical education building at Torrance high school by the Los Angeles board of education.

Progress of the work has been delayed due to inclement weather, the board was informed by the architectural division. The contract is held by Brunzell and Jacobson.

The board also approved other modifications of the plans to provide for drainage boxes in the school yard, an access road under a driveway and a change of finish for the concrete base. This additional work will cost \$101.53.

Barber, Isaacs, Smith Win Votes

Members of the Chamber of Commerce elected E. M. Barber, general superintendent of the Columbia Steel plant, as a member of the chamber directorate at the annual election held Monday. Directors re-elected were Fred Isaacs and Alden W. Smith. Barber has been serving on the board since the resignation of Bert Lanz, former Columbia Steel executive.

The new directors and hold-overs, J. W. McQuaid, Earl Brunner, R. R. Smith, Sherwood McIntyre, DeKalb Spurlin and Sam Levy, will meet Monday, June 21, to elect officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Legion Faces Competition In Fireworks Sale

Bert S. Crossland post of the American Legion received its annual permit from the city council Tuesday night to sell fireworks from booths throughout the city for the Fourth of July. It is understood that the Legion will have five booths, strategically located, this year.

However, the Legion will not have the exclusive selling rights for Independence Day fireworks here because City Clerk A. H. Bartlett informed the council that he has already renewed a permit to a private individual for a stand on the north side of Highway 101 in the southern part of Torrance.

F. O. Alder of San Pedro presented a written application to conduct the sale of fireworks for the benefit of children and Mr. and Mrs. Brand of Lomita who want to earn some extra money on the south side of Highway 101 near Hillworth street. Mayor William H. Tolson was named by the other councilmen Tuesday night to confer with Legion officials on this competitive application and if Alder's stand does not conflict with the location of Legion booths it may be granted.

Redondo Boy Killed In Auto Collision

When an automobile he was driving collided with another machine at El Chico and Via Taron streets in Palos Verdes hills, Walden Kincaid, 15-year-old Redondo Beach schoolboy, was killed Tuesday night. He crashed into a machine driven by John Peacock of 2704 Via Ana street, Palos Verdes, it was reported.

Further investigations of the fatal accident are being made by sheriff's deputies and a coroner's inquest is scheduled in Redondo Beach.

Table Sizes Cut for New Civic Building Here

A "change order" on the furnishings for the new Civic Administration building, now under construction by Elser Wickholm, Ltd., on El Prado, was approved by resolution of the city council Tuesday night. The order will reduce the size of tables to equip the structure. At the same meeting, the council voted to make an initial payment of \$475.74 on the \$19,750 building to the contractor.

Pick Theme Song
"I Love You California" has been selected as the theme song for the 1937 state fair.

Boy Bandits Strand Peckhams Armed 'Thumbers' Oust Pair from Car

Losing his new demonstrator car and his wallet at the point of a revolver early Friday morning has not shaken George Peckham's faith in boys—but he would like to see the pair of young bandits who robbed him after being given a lift in the custody of police.

He had this opportunity when the bold gangsters were arrested in Lancaster after wrecking the third car they had stolen from motorists who had given them "lifts."

Peckham, local Ford dealer, was returning home with Mrs. Peckham when they were "thumbed" by two well-dressed boys on the outskirts of Lawnwood. Peckham stopped them in the car and asked them where they were going. The older boy replied "to Redondo." At the junction of Hawthorne and Riverside-Redondo boulevard the local man asked them if they wanted to get out there.

The older said he thought they would stand a better chance of getting another lift to their destination if they got out at Torrance boulevard. Peckham sped on and just this side of the viaduct crossing Hawthorne he felt the point of a pistol in his back and was ordered to stop the car.

Wallet Cache Falls
"I was going about 60 miles an hour but I stepped on the gas hoping to get to the boulevard before they insisted on stopping. But I was again ordered to stop so I slowed down." "At the same time I got my pocketbook out of my hip pocket and shoved it down the seat back of me. But the new model Fords have a space between the front seat and the rear and the wallet fell on the floor in the back.

"Just before I stopped, a Torrance police car passed us, going in the opposite direction. I wish the officers had noticed something was wrong but they couldn't see inside our car. Mrs. Peckham was ordered out and the older boy, he must have been about 20, began prodding me with the gun to get out. I tried to stall him along, hoping I could see more of his face or hear him talk so I could identify him later," Peckham continued.

Walk to Police Station
"Then the leader ordered the younger boy, who was about 15 or 16, to get in the front and drive. The younger one was scared but he got into the driver's seat and they drove off, leaving us standing there in the night. A short distance down the road we saw them stop, turn off the lights and the motor. A few seconds later we heard the car start up, saw the lights go on and they continued. At Torrance boulevard they turned toward town."

Mr. and Mrs. Peckham had to (Continued on Page 2)

North Torrance Zoning Discussed

Continued discussion of the problem of brickyard encroachment on 182nd street near Western avenue in North Torrance occupied a major portion of the city council meeting Tuesday night. Granting of a business license to a brick firm now establishing machinery on a plot of land here has been protested by residents on 182nd, who contend that the street is residential and not industrial property.

City Attorney C. T. Rippy and City Engineer Frank R. Leonard reported that their investigations into, respectively, the city zoning ordinance and the actual site itself. Rippy said that the only method he believes feasible to meet the demands of the residents there is to re-zone the whole district. To do this, the council would have to follow the dual rule of "trend of the whole neighborhood" and "adaptability of the district to division, industrial, business, residential and agricultural."

Further study will be necessary, city councilmen agreed, before a solution of the problem is possible. In the meantime, one brick firm holds a permit to operate there but has not indicated as yet whether it will use it. No further permits will be granted until the zoning matter is settled.

City Named as Co-Defendant In Phone Tax Suit

Los Angeles county has been named defendant in a suit to recover \$1,105,411 in taxes levied against the properties of the Southern California Telephone company. In a separate complaint, the city of Torrance was named defendant in an action seeking to force the city to refund a total of \$627 in taxes collected for the year 1936-37, ending next June 30.

The taxes were paid under protest in all instances, the complaints recited, and "the San Francisco legal firm which filed the two score actions claimed that the values fixed upon its properties by the State Board of Equalization were discriminatory. It was asserted that the state board refused to make changes sought in the valuations when equalization hearings were held last fall at Sacramento, and as a result it is alleged that the assessed valuations are void."

Total assessed valuation of the company's properties in the county was given as \$54,320,000. The telephone company's total tax bill was \$1,670,409, of which \$1,589,546 was paid under protest, but the amount sought in refunds totals only \$1,105,411, according to the bulky complaints.

Properties where valuations are attacked in the suits include Beverly Hills, Huntington Park, Long Beach toll office, Pomona toll office, Hynes, Quail Lake reefer station on the Ridge Route, Gardena, North Hollywood, Van Nuys, Canoga Park, Reseda.

Alhambra, Avalon, Bell, Burbank, Claremont, Compton, Covina, Culver City, El Segundo, Glendale, Hawthorne, Inglewood, La Verne, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Maywood, Monrovia, Montebello, Redondo Beach, San Fernando, San Gabriel, San Marino, South Pasadena, Santa Monica, South Gate, Torrance.

Constitution Fete Group Named

A letter from Congressman Sol Bloom, of New York, director general of the U. S. Constitution Sesquicentennial commission, received here this week confirms the appointment of a seven-man "constitution committee" by Mayor William H. Tolson to cooperate with the commission on plans for observing the 150th anniversary of the formation of the U. S. Constitution.

Members of the local committee are L. J. Gilmeister, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce; City Clerk A. H. Bartlett; John E. McCall of 2114 Arlington avenue; R. J. Deininger, president of the Kwanich club; C. M. Northrup of 1927 Andree avenue, and J. W. Murray of 1912 Andree avenue.

Japanese Farmer's Home Robbed

A burglary which netted the robbers approximately \$200 in jewelry and currency was reported to Police here late last week by F. Y. Watanabe, produce grower who lives on Hekkyo street near Carson street. Watanabe said his home had been entered during his absence and the valuables stolen.

Herald Campaign Closes June 19

It won't be long now! One week from Saturday, on June 19, The Herald's Bonus Check campaign will come to a close and Bonus Checks totaling \$900, less commission money drawn by the workers, will be distributed to the five leading subscription gatherers. At the same time a \$200 subscriber's gift check will be awarded to some Herald subscriber.

Tomorrow night, the closing of the third period, is the final day on which extension points will be issued. The standings of workers for the five Bonus Checks are extremely close. No worker has a safe lead and real effort is most necessary on the parts of workers who wish to maintain Bonus Check positions. All workers are requested to

Hospital Has Rush of Patients Stork Works Overtime Filling Nursery

Nearly every bed was occupied today by patients at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital because the stork worked overtime and nurses had to follow suit. Miss Esther Z. Maxwell, superintendent, and Mrs. Willis M. Brooks, secretary, issued many calls for extra attendants to care for the unusually large number entered for medical, surgical or maternity treatment.

There were 30 adult patients, one five-year-old boy and 14 new-born babies registered at the institution yesterday and two more babies were en route there. The boy was Wilmer Winkler of Fillmore, son of the late Rev. Kemp J. Winkler, former well-known pastor here. The lad underwent a tonsilectomy yesterday.

Nine babies arrived during the past week to join five others which were born the previous week. The new arrivals were:

- Families Increased
A son to Mr. and Mrs. Hartley E. Carr of this city, on Monday. Carr is a service station operator at Arlington and Carson streets.
A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Cooper of Hawthorne on Wednesday.
A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Elder of Hermosa Beach on Friday.
A son to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Estel of Hermosa Beach on Saturday.
A son to Mr. and Mrs. John Goettsche of 1718 Martina avenue on Friday.
A son to Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Gleason of Los Angeles on June 2.
A son to Mr. and Mrs. J. Nagel of Redondo Beach on June 2.
A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Weber of Wilmington on Saturday, and.
A daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zaver of 424 Sartori avenue, last Thursday, June 3.
Receiving Treatment
Medical and surgical patients (Continued on Page 3A)

Laundry Operates Despite Strike

With a dwindling picket line continuing to methodically saunter up and down in front of the establishment, the C. I. O. laundry unions' strike against the Torrance Laundry and Dry Cleaning company entered its 14th day today. But the laundry firm was continuing to operate with 40 workers on the job and all but two delivery trucks in regular service.

The laundry company's application for a permanent injunction against striking unions to prevent molestation of its plant here and offices in Gardena, Long Beach, San Pedro and Hermosa Beach is to come before Superior Judge Emmett K. Wilson tomorrow morning in Los Angeles unless the application is withdrawn before that time. This court proceeding requires the unions, United Laundry Workers, and Laundry Workers' International, affiliated with the C. I. O., to show cause why the injunction should not be granted.

Navy Man Dies Here After Crash

An hour after he was received, Warren Wittmore, second class fireman with the U. S. Navy, died at 5:50 o'clock this morning at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, a victim of an auto accident at Figueroa and Main streets. He was riding with Charles Lattman of the U. S. Navy when they failed to make the turn at that intersection. Wittmore was suffering from profound shock and a possible skull fracture when brought to the hospital in an ambulance from Gardena. A coroner's inquest is being arranged. Lattman was removed to the Navy Relief ship at San Pedro. He is reported in a grave condition.

Exhibit and Tea at High School Tonight

The arts and crafts and sewing classes at the high school extend an invitation to the public to attend a tea and an exhibit of the work they are doing tonight from 7:30 to 9:30 p. m. Members of the classes will show samples of the many lines of work they are doing. Some of them are producing unique and interesting things that have been taught for several years.

Report on Water is Given City

A report which may become the basis for enlargement of the city's municipal water system and thus solve a troublesome problem for residents of North Torrance was filed with the city council Tuesday night. This is the Taylor and Taylor investigation and survey of the Moneta Water company which the council resolved to obtain May 11.

Study of Moneta Plant is Filed With Council

Because the Moneta firm is believed in a better position to service North Torrance residents with water than the city's No. 1 water district set-up, the consulting engineering firm was retained to obtain all information possible about the plant in the vicinity that is badly in need of water facilities.

The report is now under study by all councilmen, City Engineer Frank R. Leonard and Water Superintendent William H. Stanger. A decision is expected shortly on whether or not the city will approach the Moneta firm with some proposition to provide water to its northern inhabitants.

Obligations Equal Worth

Historically, the Moneta Water company is sound. Having been operating at the same site for more than 40 years it has passed through several transitions of dug wells, "hay-weir" wells and dirt ditches before coming into a combination domestic and irrigation water system in 1929. This was when a cast iron pipeline system was laid for which taxpayers obligated themselves under an improvement district bond issue.

Financially, the firm has never been on "easy street," Taylor and Taylor's report states. "At present, it is in financial distress to the extent that its due obligations are about as much as its present physical worth. Quite by coincidence our appraisal based on depreciated value total a sum nearly identical to its debts; namely, due obligations, \$21,802; valuation as depreciated, \$21,322," the report says.

The reproduction valuation of the Moneta system is said to be \$37,376, including overhead, the engineers report. "A short time ago the management placed the company under the Federal Bankruptcy Act, the manager being federal trustee. We understand the petition to dismiss the bankruptcy proceeding has been asked for, however, the creditors' claims have not been paid. The dismissal of bankruptcy proceedings would again place the company in a position of being foreclosed by the mortgagee if he chose to press suit."

Water Supply Adequate
At the present time the Moneta firm has 90 metered services besides approximately 40 non-metered irrigation services. The monthly bills vary from the minimum of \$1 to \$40 or \$50. It is a mutual concern "only in (Continued on Page 2-A)

Extend Road

Thru Torrance and Cho to Palos Verdes

Grading and surfacing of Crenshaw boulevard from the state highway in the southern part of Torrance to Palos Verdes drive will be started shortly by the county road department, following an allocation of \$10,000 by the board of supervisors. The improvement lies partly in Torrance and partly in incorporated territory of the county, according to Supervisor Leland Ford of the Fourth district, chairman of the board's roads and highways committee. That portion in Torrance is to cost \$4,800 and that portion in the county area is to cost \$5,200. Surfacing for the section is to consist of a decomposed granite base with a No. 3 macadam top, according to the resolution allocating the funds.